Message Text

MRN: 1978PARIS 014443 SEGMENT NUMBER: 000001 ERROR READING TEXT INDEX

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 SS-15 SSO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 ICAE-00 PA-01 /052 W -------041670 081203Z /43

O 051657Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1078
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BERN IMMEDIATE

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CORRECTED COPY (TEXT)

FRENCH CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITIES AS SOURCE FOR IN-FORMATION. IT SAYS THE INCIDENT BRINGS TO CENTER STAGE THE PRESENT CONFLICT BETWEEN U.S. AND FRENCH AVIATION AUTHORITIES. REPORT SAYS INCIDENT COULD HAVE DIPLOMATIC REPRECUSSIONS INASMUCH AS THE PANAM PILOT DID NOT RESPECT FRENCH SOVEREIGNTY,, "ARGUING, IT SEEMS, THAT HE HAD THE 'AUTHORIZATION' OF HIS GOVERNMENT." AFTER REVIEWING BACKGROUND AND GRADUATED FRENCH REACTION (MENTIONED BY ABRAHAM) AFP REPORT CONCLUDES THAT A "GOOD SOURCE" INDICATES THAT PANAM DID NOT RISK TAKING REAL PAYING PASSENGERS ON THIS ADVENTURE. A POINT ALSO MADE IN REUTER REPORT DATELINED PARIS MAY 4LATTER SAYS TWENTY PASSENGERS WERE ABOARD THE PLANE AND ALL WERE PANAM EMPLOYEES. MAY 5 AFP REPORT NOTES THAT PANAM HAS SUSPENDED ITS PARIS-LONDON SERVICE UNTIL MAY 8 NAND CLAIMS CIVIL AVIATION SOURCE INDICATES THAT ARBITRATION MAY START SOON.

4. LE MONDE DATED MAY 5 IN BRIEF ITEM SAID INCIDENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FOLLOWED LONG MONTHS OF STORMY RELATIONS BETWEEN U.S. AND FRANCE IN AIR TRANSPORT FIELD. LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS (INTELLECTUAL, LEFT OF CENTER) WENT BEYOND AFP REPORT IN DISCUSSING THE "WAR" FOR ATLANTIC ROUTES AND

AMERICANS WHO ARE TURNING A DEAF EAR TO FRENCH REQUESTS FOR RECIPROCITY. PAPER SAYS AMERICANS GOT A CLEAR RESPONSE FROM THE FRENCH IF THEIR INTENTION WAS TO TEST FRENCH DETERMINATION. ARTICLE CONCLUDES THAT ALTHOUGH NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS WILL BE DIFFICULT, THERE IS NO ALARM ON EITHER SIDE.

5. COMMENT: PANAM IN PARIS IS REFERRING ALL PRESS QUERIES TO EMBASSY. WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO DE-DRAMATIZE INCIDENT AND HAVE RESPONDED TO PRESS MERELY BY SAYING THE BILATERAL AGREEMENT IS BEING INTERPRETED DIFFERENTLY BY THE TWO SIDE AND WE EXPECT EFFORTS TO SETTLE THE MATTER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. AS NOTED ABOVE THE AFP REPORT SAYS THAT PANAM HAS SUSPENDED THE PARISLONDON SEGMENT OF ITS SAN FRANCISCO SERVICE UNTIL MAY 8. HOWEVER, THE PANAM DIRECTOR HERE TELLS US HIS INSTRUCTIONS "FOR PLANNING PURPOSES" ENVISAGE SUSPENSION THROUGH MAY 8. THAT IS, HE WOULD NOT EXPECT ANOTHER FLIGHT UNTIL MAY 9 IF, FOR ANY REASON, NEW YORK SHOULD DECIDE TO REPEAT THIS WEEK'S EXPERIENCE.

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